AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The Amendment of August 3, 2009 was not entered. Therefore, the present amendments are made relative to the earlier-amended claims, as was the Amendment of August 3, 2009.

Claim 1 (currently amended): A map information display control device, comprising:

a map information acquirer which acquires map information;

an information acquirer which acquires a plurality of map component information forming the map information, the plurality of map component information respectively representing at least one of traffic information relating to a traffic status or feature information relating to a feature;

a time information acquirer which acquires a time at which the plurality of map component information is acquired by the information acquirer or generated to be contained in the plurality of map component information, the time being set as a start time for each of the plurality of map component information;

a timer which counts an elapsed time from the start time up to a current time; and

a display controller which controls a display unit to display the map information and the plurality of map component information, ~~one of~~ compares the counted elapsed time with a predetermined time period to determine a degree of reliability of each of the acquired plurality of map component information,

wherein a display pattern of the plurality of map component information of which the counted elapsed time exceeds [[a]] the predetermined time period ~~being~~ is displayed ~~with a display pattern~~ with higher transparency than ~~the other of~~ a display pattern of the plurality of map component information of which the counted elapsed time has not exceeded the predetermined time period.

Claims 2 - 6 (canceled)

Claim 7 (previously presented): The map information display control device according to claim 1, further comprising:

a map information storage which stores the map information; and

an information storage which can store plural pieces of information, in each piece each of the plurality of map component information and the time at which the each of the plurality of map component information is generated being associated.

Claim 8 (canceled)

Claim 9 (previously presented): The map information display control device according to claim 7 , wherein the information storage stores the plurality of map component information by associating unique identification information with each type of the plurality of map component information.

Claim 10 (canceled)

Claim 11 (currently amended): The map information display control device according to claim 9, wherein when the information acquirer acquires updated map component information of which unique identification information is identical with the unique identification information associated with ~~one of~~ the stored plurality of map component information, the information storage conducts an updating by replacing ~~the one of~~ the stored plurality of map component information with the updated map component information.

Claim 12 (canceled)

Claim 13 (previously presented): The map information display control device according to claim 11, wherein when recognizing the updating, the display controller displays the updated map component information in a different pattern from the other of the plurality of map component information.

Claim 14 (canceled)

Claim 15 (previously presented): The map information display control device according to claim 1, wherein the display controller displays the plurality of map component information such that a difference in transparency becomes large as the elapsed time becomes long.

Claim 16 (canceled)

Claim 17 (currently amended): A map information display control system comprising:

a map information display control device; and

a terminal unit which is connected to the map information display control device via a network in a data transmittable manner, the terminal unit including the display unit which displays the map information, wherein

the map information display control device includes:

a map information acquirer which acquires map information;

an information acquirer which acquires a plurality of map component information forming the map information, the plurality of map component information respectively representing at least one of traffic information relating to a traffic status or feature information relating to a feature;

a time information acquirer which acquires a time at which the plurality of map component information is acquired by the information acquirer or generated to be contained in the plurality of map component information, the time being set as a start time;

a timer which counts an elapsed time from the start time up to a current time; and

a display controller which controls a display unit to display the map information and the plurality of map component information, ~~one of~~ compares the counted elapsed time with a predetermined time period to determine a degree of reliability of each of the acquired plurality of map component information,

wherein a display pattern of the plurality of map component information of which the counted elapsed time exceeds [[a]] the predetermined time period ~~being~~ is displayed ~~with a display pattern~~ with higher transparency than ~~the other of~~ a display pattern of the plurality of map component information of which the counted elapsed time has not exceeded the predetermined time period.

Claim 18 (currently amended): A map information display control system, comprising:

a server including a storage storing map information, and a distributing unit distributing: a plurality of map component information forming the map information representing at least one of traffic information relating to a traffic status or feature information relating to a feature; and time information relating to a time when the plurality of map component information is generated or distributed by an information distributor; and

a map information display control device which is connected to the server via a network in a data transmittable manner and controls the display unit to display the map information and the plurality of map component information, wherein

the map information display control device includes: a map information acquirer which acquires map information; an information acquirer which acquires the plurality of map component information; a time information acquirer which acquires a time at which the plurality of map component information is acquired by the information acquirer or generated to be contained in the plurality of map component information, the time being set as a start time; a timer which counts an elapsed time from the time up to a current time; and

a display controller which controls a display unit to display the map information and the plurality of map component information, ~~one of~~ compares the counted elapsed time with a predetermined time period to determine a degree of reliability of each of the acquired plurality of map component information,

wherein a display pattern of the plurality of map component information of which the counted elapsed time exceeds [[a]] the predetermined time period ~~being~~ is displayed ~~with a display pattern~~ with higher transparency than ~~the other of~~ a display pattern of the plurality of map component information of which the counted elapsed time has not exceeded the predetermined time period.

Claim 19 (currently amended): A map information display control method in which a computing unit controls a display unit to display map information, comprising:

acquiring a plurality of map component information forming the map information representing at least one of traffic information relating to a traffic status or feature information relating to a feature;

acquiring a time when the map component information is acquired and an elapsed time from the time up to a current time;

comparing the counted elapsed time with a predetermined time period to determine a degree of reliability of each of the plurality of map component information; and

controlling the display unit to display ~~one of~~ the plurality of map component information of which the counted elapsed time exceeds a predetermined time period in a display pattern with higher transparency than ~~the other of~~ the plurality of map component information of which the counted elapsed time has not exceeded the predetermined time period.

Claim 20 (currently amended): A map information display control method in which a computing unit controls a display unit to display map information, comprising:

acquiring a plurality of map component information forming the map information representing at least one of traffic information relating to a traffic status or feature information relating to a feature;

acquiring a time when the map component information is generated and an elapsed time from the time up to a current time;

comparing the counted elapsed time with a predetermined time period to determine a degree of reliability of each of the plurality of map component information; and

controlling the display unit to display ~~one of~~ the plurality of map component information of which the counted elapsed time exceeds a predetermined time period in a display pattern with higher transparency than ~~the other of~~ the plurality of map component information of which the counted elapsed time has not exceeded the predetermined time period.

Claim 21 (previously presented): The map information display control device according to claim 1, wherein the map component information comprises an icon.